



VA Roseburg Medical Center

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How to Order Naloxone

Step 1: Log onto Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) and in the Orders tab, go to Medications on the left hand side.

Step 3: From the <<Medications All>>, type in "Naloxone"

Step 4: Choose from the two Naloxone kits available (nasal or IM) depending on Veteran preference.

Step 5: Providers must provide chart documentation (e.g. progress note) that patients were educated on naloxone use or they were sent to a pharmacist/nurse for education prior to prescribing. Patients can be referred to Matthew Kipp, PharmD, BCPP, CGP in Roseburg or Rani Thamawatanakul, PharmD, in Eugene.

VA Roseburg Healthcare System Pharmacy Newsletter

September—October 2016 (International Year of Global Understanding)

Vaccines for the Fall Season

As the flu season begins, it is recommended for patients to be vaccinated as soon as the immunization is available. Remind patients there is NO benefit from waiting until later in the season to get immunized & that you cannot contract the flu from the vaccine. Veterans are able to receive their flu vaccination at the VA in-clinic or at a Walgreens pharmacy for free. For Walgreens/VA patient handout, visit:

[VA Walgreens InformationSheet 010515.pdf](#)

Concurrent vaccinations are safe. According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), it is safe for the shingles vaccine (Zostavax) to be dosed the same day as pneumonia vaccines (Pneumovax 23, Prevnar 13), and flu vaccines (Fluarix, Fluzone, Flulaval, Fluvirin). You can safely dose more than 2 vaccines together for Veterans that are not likely to return to clinic in a timely manner.

Below are tables summarizing the vaccination schedules for flu, pneumonia, and shingles:

Age	Flu Vaccine Recommendation
For patients < 65 years old	•Administer quadrivalent or trivalent flu vaccine annually
For patients ≥ 65 years old	•Administer high-dose flu vaccine annually

Age/Vaccine Status	Pneumococcal Vaccine Recommendation
For adults ≥65 years: pneumococcal vaccine-naïve	•Administer Prevnar 13 first
Previous Pneumovax 23 vaccination ≥65 years old	•Administer Pneumovax 23 one year after Prevnar 13
Previous Pneumovax 23 vaccination BEFORE 65 years old, now patient is ≥65 years old	•Administer Prevnar 13 at least one year after Pneumovax 23
	•Administer Prevnar 13 at least one year after Pneumovax 23 (which occurred before age 65), then administer Pneumovax 23 one year following Prevnar13 vaccination

Age	Shingles Vaccine Recommendation
For patients ≥ 60 years old	•Administer Zostavax once

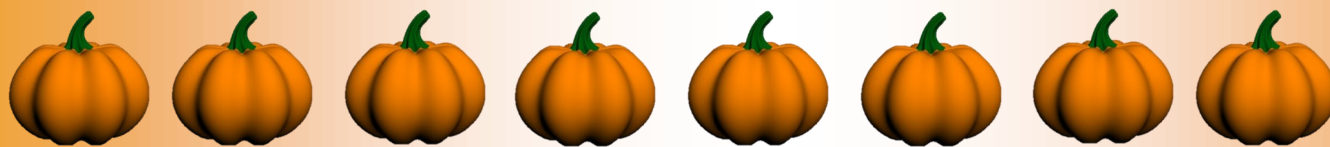
This table is a vaccine recommendation for most adults. For patients with certain conditions, it may not be recommended that they are immunized. For more details refer to: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/adult.html>

Remember—employees should be vaccinated too. Patients with heart disease, asthma/COPD, and people >65 years old—a major portion of our patient population—are the most at risk of getting sick. In order to protect the patients we serve, it is important for us to stay up to date on our immunizations, too!

October is Pharmacists Month!

Advise your patients they can access the Ask a Pharmacist App, which enables Veterans to access information about VA pharmacies and medication easily — with the comfort of knowing the information is valid and from trusted sources. If the Veteran has a verified My HealtheVet account (credentials for VA's personal health record), the Veteran can link to VA pharmacy and Secure Messaging services via the app, allowing the Veteran to quickly go to their personal health information including medications as well as learn about pharmacy-related topics.





UCC Conference Was A Success!



Roseburg VA pharmacy residents and pharmacy preceptors attended the annual Umpqua Community College Conference for Extraordinary Living. At the VA outreach booth, in conjunction with the Roseburg police department, drug take back information was provided and conference attendees were invited to bring in unused or expired medications for safe disposal. Additionally, Vial of Life packets and education was provided. Hayley Blackburn's, PharmD, BCACP, lecture on medication options for pain management was very well received. Pharmacy residents presented on a variety of topics including fall risk in the elderly and how to think FAST about stroke. This community outreach event was appreciated by conference attendees.

More information on Vial of Life can be found here: <https://www.vialoflife.com/>

Pharmacy Recognition

Our own pharmacy volunteer, **Lenora Little**, has had **over 30,000** hours of volunteer service through the VA. Thank you for your service, Lenora!

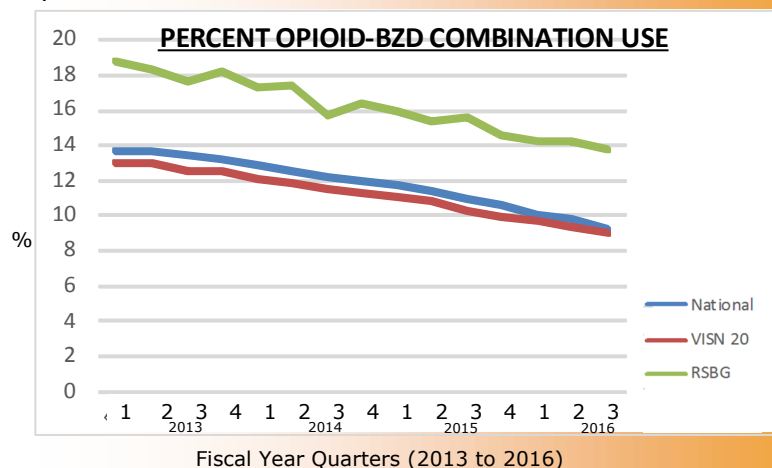
Quality Assurance Updates

Opioid-Benzodiazepine Combination Use

The dangerous combination use of opioid and benzodiazepines has been reduced by 27% since the first quarter of fiscal year 2013 (Q1FY13). After two quarters of no reduction, the Roseburg VA had a 3.5% reduction in Q3FY16.

The graph below shows the steady decline in opioid and benzodiazepine usage. However, the Roseburg VA (green) still remains above the national average (blue) and VISN20 average (red).

Pharmacy is beginning to review the use of benzodiazepines in post-traumatic stress disorder which may provide further unsafe combination use reduction.



Sevelamer Update

PT&N committee has approved automatic pharmacy conversion of sevelamer hydrochloride (Renagel) to sevelamer carbonate (Renvela). Patients are being contacted by mailed letter explaining the change. Doses will remain the same.

Hepatitis C Update

The hepatitis C clinical team has been working hard. For the 2016 fiscal year, they started treatment on a total of 112 Veterans! Recently the FDA approved sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (Epclusa®), a once-daily oral tablet for the treatment of hepatitis C virus (HCV). A 12-week course of Epclusa® is an available treatment option for HCV patients with genotype 2 and 3 and in some genotype 1 patients with previous treatment failure.

It is important for providers to screen any at-risk Veteran and ALL Veterans born between 1945-65. Through increased screening, more HCV infected patients may be identified and cured. Please consult Roseburg Infectious Disease Clinic if an HCV positive patient is interested in HCV treatment. Please consult Jessica Johnson, PharmD, 458-205-7748 for questions about potential treatment options or concerns.